

# WASTELINE

Recycling and solid waste information for the citizens of Omaha, Nebraska

City of Omaha

Mike Fahey, Mayor

December, 2002

Public Works Department

Norm Jackman, Acting Director

Environmental Quality Division

## Oh Christmas Tree... Oh Christmas Tree. Here's Where to Recycle Thee.

**R**ECYCLING IS THE WORD for this year's Christmas tree. As announced in the last issue of **WASTELINE**, Christmas trees will not be collected as part of Omaha's garbage service. Omaha residents have three options for disposal of their Christmas trees this year: 1) take the tree to one of the collection sites listed in the box to the right using the same means you got it home; 2) place the tree securely in your yard and wait for yardwaste collection to resume in April; 3) consider an artificial tree.



The Christmas tree collection sites are an Omaha tradition where natural Christmas trees have been collected and later chipped. As usual, you must remove all decorations, plastic bag and the stand from the tree before leaving it at the site. Flocked trees will be accepted. As an added convenience, the sites will be staffed with volunteers from the Omaha Rotary Clubs, Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, and Millard North National Honors Society on December 28 & 29, 2002, and January 4 & 5, 2003, from 10AM until 4PM each day.

To receive a complete brochure by fax about the Christmas tree sites, call 444-3610 and select option 3.

### Beyond the tree...

Wrapping paper, gift catalogues and greeting cards are all recyclable. Simply place them in your mixed paper sack (sack number two as described inside this flier) and set it out for collection with your other recyclables in your green recycling bin. Cards with flocking and foil wrapping papers should be disposed of in the garbage.

All the glass bottles, metal cans and the plastic bottles marked with ♻️ & ♻️ from holiday entertaining are recyclable as well. If you have more recyclables than your green bin will hold,

### Christmas Tree Recycling Sites:

- ♻️ City Maintenance Facility†, North 11TH & Locust Streets
- ♻️ Tranquility Park, North 120TH Street & West Maple Road
- ♻️ Ak-Sar-Ben, Parking lot #6, Mercy Road & South 69TH Street entrance. *Last year for this location!*
- ♻️ Orchard Park, North 66TH Street & Hartman Avenue
- ♻️ "F" Street Football Field, South 156TH & "F" Streets
- ♻️ Brown Park, "U" Street between 15TH & 18TH Streets
- ♻️ Wehrspann Lake, the Hwy 370 entrance to the Wildlife Management Area south parking lot.
- ♻️ Bellevue Haworth Park, Hwy 370 & Payne Drive
- ♻️ Papillion Senior Center, 1001 Limerick Road
- ♻️ Papio Bay, 815 E Halleck Street
- ♻️ LaVista Sports Complex, 66TH Street 2 blocks South of Harrison
- ♻️ Kelly West Park, 87TH Street & Park View Boulevard

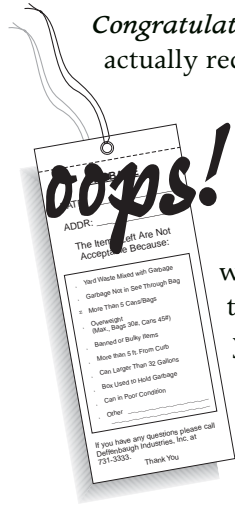
† This site is only open during staffed hours, December 28 & 29, 2002 and January 4 & 5, 2003, 10AM—4PM

here are several suggestions 1) hold some of the recyclables back until the next week or 2) take the extra recyclables to one of the three drop-off sites (call 444-4500 for information). If you regularly have extra recyclables, you may need an extra bin. It's easy, just call 444-5238. ●

**2003 Holiday Collection Schedule Inside**

# Red Tags Easy to Avoid

For those who have never received a red tag from the solid waste collection contractor—**Congratulations!** Red tags aren't actually red, but they do have a red border around them and contain a listing of reasons why a material set out for collection wasn't collected. Red tags were started ten years ago as local, state and federal regulations became more stringent about what could be placed in the landfill.



It certainly isn't fun to receive a red tag and have your garbage, yardwaste or recyclables left behind which is why



**WASTELINE** is mailed out four times a year. Each day Deffenbaugh writes about 100 red tags to inform citizens why their material was not collected. While that may seem like a lot, it's really nothing compared to the 60,000+ possible tags each day.

Most red tags fall into just a couple of categories for each type of material.

## Garbage

Trash bags should be clear plastic

Items that don't fit in a trash can or trash bag won't be picked up  
Cans weighing more than 45 pounds and bags weighing more than 30 pounds won't be picked up  
No boxes to hold garbage  
Stuff not in a trash can or clear trash bag will not be picked up.

## Recycling

No plastic bags. Period.  
Cut cardboard so it will fit in the truck – 2 feet by 2 feet.  
Only recyclable items inside the bin.  
Recycling bin required.

## Yardwaste

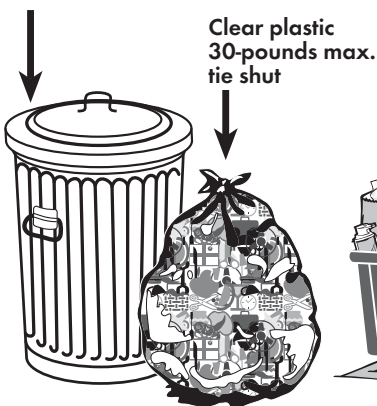
(season runs April-November)

No plastic bags. Period. Only paper bags or trash cans.  
Cans weighing more than 45 pounds and bags weighing more than 40 pounds won't be picked up

## Within 5 feet of curb or alley

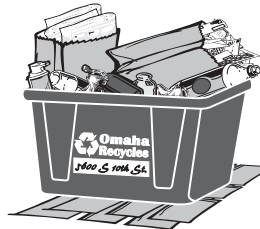
### Garbage: 5 containers max.

32-gal. 45-pound max.



### Recycling:

No plastic bags  
Cut cardboard to 2 feet by 2 feet  
Separate paper bags for newspaper & other paper



### Yardwaste: No container limit

32-gal. 45-pound max.  
Marked YW

Paper bags only  
40-pounds max.

Growing Season Only



Bundle with string  
4-feet long max.  
2-inch diameter branches  
30-pounds max.



Households where all residents in the home have a medical disability or are age 70 or older may apply to use a more convenient location for garbage, yardwaste and recyclables collection. To apply, call 444-5238 from 8AM until 6PM weekdays.

# Recyclables

Set out by 6am

## Paper sack #1—Newspaper (Do not use plastic bags)

- Includes: Coupons, advertisements, Parade section and all paper that came with the newspaper.
- Lay sack on top of bin.
- NO!** Do not include: phonebooks (see sack #2) or other paper, rubber bands, plastic bags.

Yes



## Paper sack #2—Mixed Paper (Do not use plastic bags)

- Includes: Magazines, catalogues, phonebooks, cereal boxes, junkmail (including mailing labels and plastic windows), detergent boxes, greeting cards, wrapping paper, paperback books, office and school paper.
- Lay sack on top of bin.
- NO!** Do not include: pizza boxes, juice boxes, milk cartons, hardbound books, tissue paper, paper plates, or frozen food boxes.

Yes

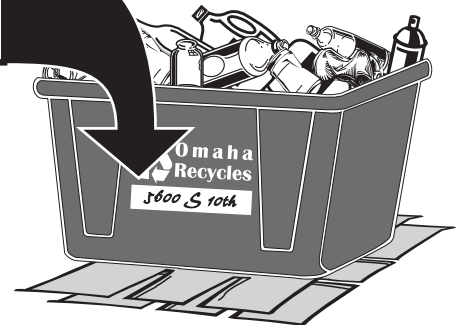


## Loose in the bin—Containers (Not in plastic bags)

- Plastic bottles marked PETE ♻️, including: Bottles that held pop, cooking oil, mouthwash, shampoo or cleaners.
- NO!** PETE ♻️ not included: deli/produce containers, frozen food trays, plastic cups, toys or cookie trays.
- Plastic bottles and tubs marked HDPE ♻️, including—bottles and tubs that held milk, juice, cleaners, margarine, whipped topping, or yogurt.
- NO!** HDPE ♻️ not included: motor oil or auto product bottles, lawn chemical bottles, toys or cookie trays. No 5 gallon buckets.
- Glass bottles & jars.
- Aluminum cans & Steel (tin) cans, including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans. *Tip: Place end of food cans inside can and crimp closed.*
- Corrugated cardboard. Flatten. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet. Place in bin or on ground under bin.
- NO!** Lids of any kind. Remove and throw in garbage.

Yes

Write your address here.



## Recycling Collection Tips

- NO!** Lids. Remove snap top and screw on lids from all containers and place in garbage.
- NO!** plastic bags, Styrofoam®, motor oil bottles, plate glass, syringes, light bulbs, drinking glasses or pizza boxes.
- Write your address on the bin using a permanent marker.
- Flatten all boxes. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet.
- Remove bin from curb as soon as possible after collection.
- All recyclables set out for collection must be in a green bin. (Except pieces of cardboard that should be placed under the bin)



**WASTELINE**

Omaha Public Works—Environmental Quality Division  
5600 S. 10TH St.  
Omaha, NE 68107-3501  
www.wasteline.org

**Christmas tree drop-off sites listed inside.**



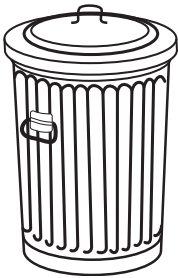
**Keep America Going, Recycle!**





# Garbage

**Collection Missed? Call 444-5238 after 7pm on your collection day.**

Because of state and federal mandates, there are limits to the types of waste that you may include in your garbage. Each household is limited to 5 properly prepared trash cans or clear bags of garbage per week.

## Yes!














-  Trash cans up to 32 gallons and weighing up to 45 pounds when full.
-  Clear plastic bags and weighing up to 30 pounds when full.
-  Up to five containers of trash per week (example 2 trash cans and 3 bags).
-  Place within 5 feet of curb, approved alley or other approved location.



For bulky items that are larger than allowed for normal collection, there is a disposal option. Through a local solid waste transfer station, Omaha has a low cost, co-pay system for disposal. Call 444-5238 for information.

## No!

-  A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
-  Rocks, dirt and concrete.
-  Dead animals.
-  All liquids.
-  Tires, engines or other large auto parts.
-  Bulky items (couches, chairs, stoves, etc.).
-  Dark plastic bags that you can't see through.
-  Motor oil and automotive batteries.
-  Cardboard boxes (empty or full) when not in a can or bag.
-  Natural Christmas trees.
-  Stuff outside a can or bag.

### Take Note!

- ♦ **Upcoming collection holidays**—Christmas Day and New Years Day, Wednesday December 25, and Wednesday January 1. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday's collections are delayed by one day.
- ♦ **Yardwaste collection will resume in April 2003**



## Holiday Collection Schedule

Six holidays are observed by the City's solid waste collection contractor. *Following a holiday, collection is delayed by one day for the remainder of that week.* Friday's collection will be on Saturday.

### The 2002-2003 holiday's are:


- Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25, 2002
- New Year's Day: Wednesday, January 1, 2003
- Memorial Day: Monday, May 26, 2003
- Independence Day: Friday, July 4, 2003
- Labor Day: Monday, September 1, 2003
- Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 27, 2003
- Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25, 2003
- New Year's Day: Thursday, January 1, 2004


## Go On-Line to WASTELINE

The **WASTELINE** website ([www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org)) gives you the most accurate and up-to-date information about Omaha's solid waste collection.

At the site you'll definitely want to sign up for the e-mail notification service that will remind you of holidays observed by the collectors, and notify you if there are delays in collection due to weather. Other upcoming features will include the ability to order a recycling bin and to request an elderly or disabled collection application.

Other websites of note are:

 [www.ci.omaha.ne.us](http://www.ci.omaha.ne.us) is the City's official homepage. From this site, you can access information on all city departments.

 [www.underthesink.org](http://www.underthesink.org) the homepage for the upcoming Douglas-Sarpy-Omaha household chemicals disposal facility.

 [www.omagro.com](http://www.omagro.com) is the homepage of Omaha's composting program and our retail product **OmaGro**. Directions to our facility, retailers that carry **OmaGro** and application rates are features of this site.

## Ask for it by Name!



Omaha's Premium Quality Compost  
[www.omagro.com](http://www.omagro.com)



If your recycling bin is missing, or damaged call 444-5238.

**Please participate in Omaha's recycling program.**

- **It's easy**
- **Saves Tax Dollars**
- **Produces jobs and revenue**



Set Out By 6AM

- Place all materials at your collection point by 6AM.
- If your collection was missed, call 444-5238 after 7PM on your collection day.
- Leave a couple feet of space between recyclables and garbage containers (and yardwaste when in season).
- Recycling and solid waste information for Omaha is available from *FRED* an automated fax and voice system. With a touch tone phone, dial 444-3610. For a fax index select document 90. Here is a short list of some of the fax and voice messages:

Collection Pointers

|                           | Voice | Fax |
|---------------------------|-------|-----|
| Recycling, Curbside       | 680   | 109 |
| Recycling, Special Topics | 683   | 113 |
| Recycling, Drop-off Sites | 685   | 107 |
| Garbage Collection        | 682   | 127 |
| Yardwaste Collection      | 681   | 127 |
| Collection Problems       | 684   | 127 |
| Bulky Item Disposal       | 686   | 108 |

**DO NOT DOUBLE**    **MANUFACTURER'S COUPON**    **EXPIRES 4/30/03**

NOT VALID WITH OTHER OFFERS    NOT VALID WITH OTHER SALES

SAVE 25¢  
 OFF

THE RETAILER WE WILL PAY FOR FACE VALUE PLUS ANY HANDLING CHARGE PER COUPON. LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE. CASH VALUE 1/20 CENT. FOR PAYMENT MAIL COUPON TO: PHOENIX RECYCLING INC, 35 CAPERS WAY, PAWLEYS ISLAND, SC 29585